Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, BEXP,RKU

SUBJECT: VIP FOR AMERICA DAY AT THE PLOVDIV FAIR

USDOC FOR BEWT, STATE FOR EUR/EE AND ARMITAGE

REF: A) SOFIA 1587, PARA 5; B) STATE 188315

- 1. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED WORD THAT THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION IS OFF, AND COINCIDENTALLY RECEIVED REF B WITH THE FAREWELL MESSAGE OF UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE TABOR. THIS MEANS THAT THE MOST LIKELY MEANS OF FINDING A VIP TO OFFICIATE AT AMERICA DAY IN PLOVDIV, AND OUR PREFERRED FALLBACK, HAVE BOTH EVAPORTATED.
- 2. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE URGE THAT THE MATTER OF FINDING AN APPROPRIATELY HIGH-LEVEL PERSONAGE FOR PLOVDIV BE MOVED TO THE FRONT BURNER WITHOUT DELAY. WE GOT INTO A BIND LAST YEAR WITH UNFORTUNATE RESULTS. THERE IS STILL TIME TO AVOID HAVING THE US FALL ON ITS FACE IN THIS MATTER.
- 3. IN CASE THERE IS ANY TENDENCY TO BELIEVE THAT THIS PROBLEM MIGHT JUST GO AWAY AND THAT WE CAN FEND FOR OURSELVES WITHOUT A VIP, IT SHOULD BE REALIZED THAT OTHER COUNTRIES WILL BE GENERALLY HAVING SENIOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OFFICIALS (SOME OF THEM WITH CABINET RANK) FROM THEIR CAPITALS. FOR US NOT TO HAVE A VIP WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY DETRACT FROM EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR EFFORT IN PLOVDIV, IN WHICH SO MUCH EFFORT IS BEING INVESTED.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004

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